



The San Francisco Bay Area Network Inventory and Monitoring Program tracks the status and trends of the region's natural resources in order to improve park management through greater reliance on scientific knowledge.

Project Highlights – July 2007

'Tis the Season for Butterflies

In June and July annual butterfly counts were conducted at John Muir, Point Reyes, Pinnacles, and at various locations in San Francisco including the Presidio. As radiant colored insects fluttered about, volunteers, lead by Paul Johnson, Laim O'Brien, and Joe Kinyon looked through binoculars and yelled, "There's one! Oh, I see a swallowtail!" Pinnacles counted 39 species and 4,764 individual butterflies, including a possible continental record high count for two species, the great copper and the Bernardino square-spotted blue. There were 19 species and 118 individuals documented at JOMU, including five species of swallowtails. Presidio counts found 12 species with two species, the red admiral and the painted lady found only in the Presidio and at no other locations surveyed in San Francisco. Point Reyes documented 28 species and 655 individual butterflies. The Echo Blue and Satyr Comma butterflies were recorded in the 100's and surprisingly only 6 individual California Tortoiseshells were sighted, which had been seen in the thousands about two weeks earlier. Four of the six butterfly counts in the state that include NPS land are in the SFAN (the other two are at Lassen and Joshua Tree). The information gained from these counts helps to monitor butterfly populations within the parks as well as across the continent. To volunteer next year for any of the counts contact Paul Johnson, Pinnacles Wildlife Biologist, (831) 389-4485 ext.271.



California Sister

Photo by: Joseph Kinyon

New Research Project Summaries are now available for viewing

Research project summaries, or in some cases Executive Briefings, are a vital education and outreach resource for the National Park Service. These 2-page handouts summarize specific research projects that have been completed or are on-going within the parks. A big thank you to Kelly Reeves for her hard work at putting these together. All current Executive Briefings can be viewed at: <http://www1.nature.nps.gov/im/units/sfan/ExecutiveBriefings.cfm>

Further Research Project Summaries can be viewed at:

http://www.nps.gov/archive/pore/science_current.htm

New Invasive Species Intern

The Inventory and Monitoring Program is pleased to welcome Jennifer Billik, the new weed watcher intern. Jennifer will be helping with the invasive plant early detection surveys and mapping project through September. She comes to us with extensive experience in natural resource management in the Golden Gate National Recreational Area. She has grown native plants at the Presidio Native Plant Nursery, removed invasive plants with the Habitat Restoration Team and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy Site Stewardship, and done a little bit of every kind of restoration work since 1997. Jennifer will be based out of Fort Cronkhite in the Marin Headlands.